

## **Band Fees and Expenses**

The Rockdale County High School Band Booster Club Association, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization that supports our band organization in many ways. Our annual budget is funded mainly through band fees and fundraising activities. Any great experience comes at a price. We do not sacrifice quality for the sake of money nor do we get "too extravagant" with our endeavors. Below you will find an approximate breakdown of the cost of per pupil expenditures for each student of the Rockdale County High School Band. You will find that, in comparison to the overall pupil expenditures, the required parent portion is quite modest.

The per-pupil cost to be in the RCHS Band for 2010-11 is approximately \$1030.00 (not including band trips). The amount that is subsidized per pupil through the county funds is approximately \$60.50. That leaves an outstanding balance of \$969.50 per pupil that is not covered. **The current annual band fee for the RCHS Band is \$400.00. The remaining balance of \$619.50 PER STUDENT must be fulfilled through other means with a majority of this coming from band fundraising events.** This underscores the need for parental assistance in our concession stands, the Greater Atlanta Marching Festival, and FULL student participation in our fundraising efforts.

It is no secret that a specific budget must be met in order to maintain a band program of our caliber and size. It is up to each family to weigh the costs and benefits of being in the band. The financial commitment is small, compared with the chance to learn a lifelong skill and love for music. Students receive a music education, a lifelong skill to play an instrument, and an experience that will be with them forever. There are few organizations that can offer these benefits to students and parents alike. We believe that we, the Rockdale County High School Band, are one of these organizations.

Band fees are divided as follows:

- 1. \$400.00 Band Fee that includes the following:**
  - a. Marching Band Camp expenses
  - b. Marching band show including music and drill
  - c. Band uniform rental fee – a portion of this goes into a uniform purchase savings account
  - d. Guard Costume
  - e. Band T-Shirt
  - f. Band Booster Club and Band Program mailings
  - g. Additional Instructional Staff through the school year (marching and concert)
  - h. Band Equipment
  - i. Fall Guard Equipment
  - j. Festival/Contest Fees
  - k. Music
  - l. Student Awards

***Band fees for non-marching students: \$95.00***

This fee includes everything above except marching band items

- 2. Greater Atlanta Marching Festival (Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>) – all students, marching and non-marching, are required to work a minimum of one shift. Parents of marching and non-marching members are to work a minimum of two shifts (counted individually – mom and dad work same shift equals two shifts).**
- 3. Fall Fundraiser - TBD**
- 4. Fruit Fundraiser**
- 5. Spring Fundraiser – TBD**

**Students have the option of paying a fundraising fee for one or all of the above fundraisers.** This option is available for those families that do not wish to participate in the sale of goods to others. The fees are based on required profits per family as follows and are due at the end of each fundraiser:

*Fall Fundraiser - \$100.00; Fruit Fundraiser - \$75; Spring Fundraiser - \$75.00*

**Band fee is due in full on July 16<sup>th</sup>.** Fees may be paid in full at any time before July 16<sup>th</sup> or according to this payment schedule:

April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Deposit - \$50.00  
May 21<sup>st</sup> – Payment - \$100.00  
June 21<sup>st</sup> – Payment - \$125.00  
July 16<sup>th</sup> – Final Payment - \$125.00

For your convenience you are now able to pay band fees through Pay-Pal. A \$3.50 convenience charge is attached to any online payment, but will allow you to use a Debit Card or Credit Card for your payment. You may also use a Pay-Pal account if you have one. This payment method will be ready in early April. A limited number of financial assistantships are available for families in extreme financial need. Financial assistantship applications are available through Mr. Stanton in the band office.

Families with a second child in the Band/Color Guard will be assessed the full fee for the 1<sup>st</sup> child and half of the appropriate fee for the second child. The band fee is waived for a third child in the program but will have to meet the fundraising requirements.

In addition to the above band fee, students have personal items that must be purchased. Some of these items are one time purchases while others are yearly. The following expenses are considered personal items that are ordered through the band but not covered by the band fee:

- Wind Players: bibbers (pants), gloves, and shoes.
- Percussionists: bibbers (pants), shoes, sticks/mallets, and drum heads (first head is free)
- Guard members: gloves, shoes, guard bag, and warm-up suit.

The above personal items will be fitted during the summer and must be paid in full before the student receives the items. Percussionists who march in the battery section will need to purchase their drumsticks and mallets. Front Ensemble members will have a minimal mallet cost to purchase mallets for the section since a variety of mallets will be used. The mallet costs and payment due date for front ensemble members will be determined no later than band camp.

Current prices for the personal items mentioned above are as follows:

Black cotton gloves (winds)	\$4.00
Black band shoes (all instrumentalists)	\$27.00
Bibbers (Pants)	\$49.00 (additional \$5.00 for hemming by the band)
Guard Warm-up Suit	\$77.00
Guard Gloves	\$15.00
Guard Shoes	\$35.00
Guard Bag	\$55.00

*Prices reflect the most recent pricing of these items and are subject to change.*

### **Parent Volunteer Points**

In order to meet the needs of our program, volunteers are required throughout the year. We have numerous opportunities for parents to volunteer throughout the year, especially in the fall. As an incentive, the band offers a rebate to families who earn a specific number of volunteer points. ***Families earning 125 or more points by April 30th will receive a \$100.00 credit on band fees for the next school year (9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> graders) or a refund check (graduating seniors only provided no money remains due to the band).*** There is no refund of fees for a second or third child in the band or for students who drop or are removed from the band before the end of their senior year.

Volunteer points are earned as follows:

Work football concession stand one full game (setup through cleanup):	25 points
Work field crew full season:	50 points
Chaperone home football game or band event:	10 points
Chaperone away football game:	15 points
Chaperone overnight event/competition:	25 points
Supply 10—15 family-friend names/addresses for Pledge-a-Thon:	10-15 points
Uniform maintenance ( <i>issue/cleaning/repair/creation/design</i> ):	15-25 points
Work GA Music Educators Association event (RCHS is host):	15 points
Work GAMF beyond the required shifts	25 points
Practice field lining (full season)	50 points
Work Hospitality for the full year (includes concert season)	15 points
Work any additional band sponsored events	15 points
Other activities as deemed appropriate by director	5-25 points